

523,387

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
26 February 2004 (26.02.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/017641 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **H04N 7/50, 7/30**

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(21) International Application Number:

PCT/IB2003/003254

(22) International Filing Date: 16 July 2003 (16.07.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

02078241.3 6 August 2002 (06.08.2002) EP

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(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

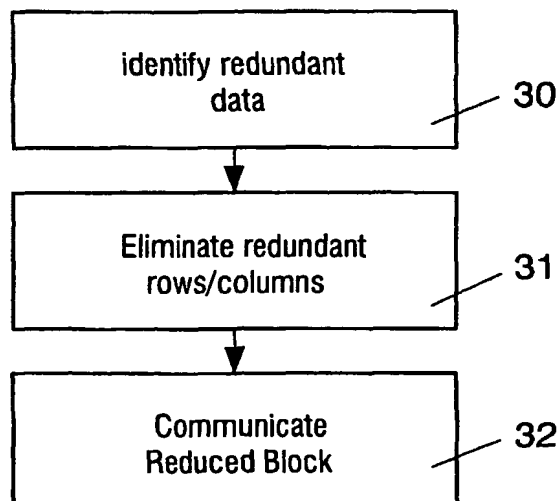
(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: A METHOD OF COMMUNICATING DATA WITHIN A CODER



(57) **Abstract:** Transform based coders are frequently used in digital signal processing. The present invention relates to a method of communicating at least one block of data from a first functional element (3; 4; 7; 12; 14) within a transform based coder (1) or decoder (10) to a second functional element (4; 5; 7; 8; 14; 15) within the coder or decoder, where the block of data comprises a row-column structure of data coefficients. A significant communication workload occurs between individual elements of the coders and decoders. The present invention seeks to reduce this workload by making an effort to communicate only non-zero coefficients within a cartesian bounding box of a block between various functional units in a decoding or encoding scheme by reducing the size of the at least one block of data to produce a reduced size data block by elimination (31) of one or more rows and/or columns of substantially zero valued coefficients, and communicating (32) the reduced size data block from the first functional element to the second functional element.

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